



Journey Missions
3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, MN 55441
763-412-2042

ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS

If you are receiving this packet that means that you have stepped out in faith to find out more about Journey Missions ministry opportunities! We know that you will have many questions and need lots of information before the trip begins and this packet is our attempt at beginning to answer those questions.

Before we get into specifics, we would be grateful if you would let us introduce the ministry of Journey Missions to you so you have an idea of what you have gotten yourself into.

Journey Missions is a department of AFLC World Missions. The vision for this ministry is for people to serve cross-culturally alongside one another. Each mission trip varies in objectives due to the different cultures and ministries. Some trips may be primarily relational, some may be support based, and some may be labor intensive. However, the goal of Journey Missions is not for attendees to serve internationally and be done. Rather, the goal is for a long-term impact. We pray people will go, serve, and return home with rejuvenated hearts to continue serving in the local congregation.

Our goals as a ministry are:

- To assist missionaries with their work in the field.
- To learn about and develop a heart for missions and for others around the globe.
- To discover where we, as part of the body of Christ, fit into the grand scheme of God's plan for the world.

As we assist missionaries (usually those in other countries who are serving with the AFLC or partnering with the AFLC) we, as a team, learn flexibility. The needs of each missionary and field are different with each trip and often those needs or plans change as time progresses. Please remember that part of your ministry is to go with the flow as you serve.

Developing a heart for others and for missions is something that only Christ can do in your life as you travel with us. We only hope to facilitate that by experiencing and discussing cultures and building relationships with other people and learning how they experience the world.

There is a specific place and purpose for you on this team and in the country we are traveling to. We need your personality, your talents, and your perspective. You are vital to the success of this trip and we want you to know that we are praying for you as you prepare.

Thank you for your willingness to serve the Lord in this way at this time!

Jon Nelson

Department Head of Journey Missions

General Information

Are Journey Mission Trips Dangerous?

Because of the nature of what we are doing, there is some risk. You will be flying in airplanes halfway around the world, traveling in places you may never have been and reaching out to people that (much of the time) no one on the trip has ever met. Is there a danger in the unknown? Yes.

Fortunately, we have a God that is bigger than the unknown, a God who cares about every detail and event that you will encounter. We want to assure you that we are committed to boundaries, careful planning and keeping you as safe as possible. Your safety is of paramount importance to us and all those in leadership on the trips.

What should I do about arrival and departure?

We ask that you meet us prior to the trip at a time and place to be announced. If you are traveling from some distance you may arrive at the AFLC Schools Campus up to one day before the trip training begins and stay in guest housing for a small fee if available. You can also stay one night after the trip. You can contact Jon Nelson, Journey Missions Department Head if you wish to stay on campus and he will make arrangements for you. If you are flying into MSP airport, someone will pick you up and bring you to the campus.

Will we need spending money?

Meals and lodging and in-country travel expenses are included in the price of the trip. Any souvenirs or other expenses (such as snacks) are their own. Journey Missions also does not include the price of passports or applicable visas in the trip price. If you have personally received funds above and beyond what has already been sent to Journey Missions, please know that expenses such as your passport or travel to Minneapolis can be reimbursed. Documentation can be sent to AFLC Journey Missions, 3110 E Medicine Lake Blvd, Plymouth MN 55441.

What is your experience with short term missions?

Department Head, Jon Nelson, lived and worked alongside ministry in Brazil in 2010 and has traveled extensively through South and Central America as well as countries in Africa and the Middle East participating in and leading mission trips.

Brazil

Dates

July 31 - August 16, 2019

Payment Schedule

Trip Cost: \$3,000

04/15/2019 - \$200 (Deposit Due with Application)

05/1/2019 - \$700

06/1/2019 - \$700

07/1/2019 - \$700

07/15/2019 - \$700

Travel Documents

Passport

You need a passport to travel to Brazil. If you do not have a passport, please purchase one as soon as possible. Go to <http://travel.state.gov/passport/> for more information.

Visa

We will need visas prior to departing for this trip to Brazil. We will be sending out info on how to pursue the visa after receiving your application.

Frequently Asked Questions

About Fundraising

What is the best way to raise support?

Many attendees have had the most success when they send out support letters to friends and family. You can also speak to local congregations, use sales-type fundraisers and do the traditional type fundraisers, such as a bake sale or car wash. Get creative and it won't take long to raise the funds. Over the years, mission trips through the AFLC have had thousands arrive in a few weeks using support letters. If you do speak at a church, be sure to go back after returning from the trip and let them know how your trip went!

What are your financial policies?

Attendees should have their funds sent to AFLC Journey Missions. Team member's name **cannot** be written anywhere on support checks, including the memo space. Checks made payable to an individual are not tax deductible. Funds donated for "AFLC JOURNEY MISSIONS" outreach according to IRS regulations are not refundable and not transferable. In the event a team member decides to withdraw from the outreach after contributions have been received, those funds will be utilized for special needs for the outreach.

Can we get our money back?

Once the funds reach Journey Missions they become the property of AFLC Journey Missions. If an attendee drops out, the funds will be used to fill in any places where funds may be short and also to provide a gift for the ministry with whom we are working.

About The Trips

What is the schedule and details about our time in Brazil?

Unfortunately, this is one question that often goes unanswered far longer than everyone would wish. This is due to the fact that the missionaries that we are working with are not always able to tell us the details months in advance. For these types of questions, we suggest patience and the knowledge that you will be learning a good, healthy dose of flexibility! We will let you know via email as soon as we are informed of any changes or updates.

Will we have free time?

On the Brazil trip, you will have some loosely structured time for a few days upon arrival and a few days before we head home. One of the days toward the end of the trip will be dedicated to debriefing and team bonding.

How much money should we bring?

You will only need money to cover any souvenirs or snacks. All of your meals and other expenses are covered in the trip price. We recommend bringing \$100-\$300, depending on how many souvenirs you plan to purchase. For safety reasons, please do not bring more than that amount.

About the Ministry

What do I have to learn?

You will be expected to learn some passages of scripture and to familiarize yourself with the curriculum you will be helping to teach. There will be some memorization involved. You will also learn some songs and games.

Journey Mission's Policies

Women: Please do not bring any revealing tops, such as skimpy tank tops or low cut shirts. If you bring shorts, please make sure that the bottom seam is below your fingertips when you are standing up.

Men: We ask that you refrain from being shirtless unless swimming. Please don't bring sleeveless t-shirts or short shorts - see fingertip rule above.

With modesty issues, the focus is not only on what you are wearing/not wearing but on what we can do to show respect for the people we are ministering to and those we are working with on our team. Modesty is more about your attitude and demeanor and respect for each other than what you wear.

Medications

Attendees are responsible for their own medications. We are not allowed to dispense anything that requires a prescription. Attendees should be sure that their prescriptions have labels with their names on them. Attendees are not allowed to share their prescriptions with another member of the team or with anyone in the country we are visiting.

We do bring a few standard OTC meds, such as generic Ibuprofen and antidiarrheal. If you have specific OTC medication that you want please be sure to bring it with you. If you have a specific food or drug allergies that you did not list on the application, please let us know as soon as possible.

What To Pack

- Passport
- Clothes for the duration: please see dress code above
- Camera and extra batteries or charger
- Electrical adaptors
- Money for snacks on the flights and souvenirs, etc.
- Your Bible passages to study, a testimony
- Any prescribed medications (please bring a copy of prescription if you have it) and any other OTC meds you may need: anti-diarrhea, Tylenol, Motrin, etc., motion sickness pills, heartburn medication and the like. Consider something like Airborne or another multivitamin or antioxidant/immune supporting vitamin to help you fight off colds and sickness while traveling and in the country.
- Please keep your items to a limit of ONE bag and backpack per person.
- You are required to carry your passport and other valuables in a pouch either around your neck or around your waist. We have found the waist pouch to be the easiest to use and most secure.

Vaccinations

Journey Missions does not officially require any vaccinations that are not required to enter the country we are traveling to. The CDC and your Doctor may recommend some elective vaccinations and/or malaria medication. Please contact your Doctor or a local travel clinic if you are concerned about this issue.

The CDC recommends seeing a travel Doctor 4-6 weeks before you travel. They will most likely recommend you are up to date on your normal vaccinations, plus Hepatitis A and B and Rabies.

They may recommend Yellow Fever but that is only necessary if you are coming from a country with Yellow Fever outbreaks, the area of Brazil we will be traveling in will not warrant a yellow fever shot nor will you need to acquire Malaria.

Just So You Know...

There are a few things that we want you to know about ahead of time so you are prepared to participate. If any of these things are a problem please let us know so we can work with you.

- We will be sending you study assignments before the trip begins. Some of those will need to be completed by the time training starts, others will have different deadlines. We will send reminder emails about the deadlines and what we expect.
- Near the end of the trip, we may conduct video interviews with the attendees and staff. We will provide you with the questions we will be asking in the interviews at training so you can prepare.
- During the debriefing day near the end of the trip, you will have time to share with the team what you've learned on the trip. We have a set of questions you will receive during training that will help facilitate that. We need your answers to those questions typed up and emailed to us by 1 month after the trip ends.
- To help share your experience with Journey Missions we ask that you write up 200 words about your time on the trip. This can be emailed to us up to 1 month after the trip ends. The video, answers to the questions and your 200 words about the trip may be used for promotional purposes. Please let us know in writing (email or print) if you do not want your words or interview used this way.